

**TODAY and
TOMORROW**

The Simla Lessons

THE Leaders' Conference at Simla on Saturday last under the presidency of Lord Wavell with the view to arriving at an agreed acceptance of his recent proposals, ended in failure. The failure is attributed to the fact that while Mr. Jinnah wanted all the five Moslems for the proposed Executive Council of the Viceroy to be nominated from the Moslem League, Wavell was willing to take only four men from the League, and insisted on reserving the fifth place for a Moslem member of the Unionist Party.

The failure of the Leaders' Conference, however, has for us some important lessons. The first and foremost of these is this: it does not pay nationalists in India to show themselves as eager to compromise with Britain. The more eager you are, the further she recedes from what you seek.

The last general elections held in India for the Provincial and the Central Legislatures proved beyond doubt that about 80 to 85 per cent. of Indians of all classes and creeds were followers of the National Congress. In spite of this fact, the Congress acquiesced in the British authorities treating the Moslem League as a body representing the great majority of the Indian Moslems.

Another lesson of the failure of the Simla talks on which we ought to lay our hearts is, that Britain will never help India's march to self-government but only hinder it. This is quite understandable. Britain would be a third-rate power today but for the possession of India. Can we imagine that the British people as a nation will ever rise to such a height of unselfishness as to give up of their own accord a country which adds so much to their imperial prestige and power? It is therefore to their vital interest to give every separatist element in India all kinds of encouragement and make it a convenient pretext for the continuance of their domination. This is the explanation for allowing Mr. Jinnah, the leader of a minority community, to hold up India's political progress.

It is a lamentable lack of realism for anybody to expect Britain to deal fairly by India. Britain's motives in making the offer she has made through Wavell are two, and only two—namely, in the first place she wants to create the impression on the outside world that the obstacle to India's self-government is, not British imperialism but Indian disunity. And in the second place, she hopes, by this make-believe attempt at India's constitutional reform, to win over the masses of India to her war efforts. But we here are not going to be fooled by this British trick. Our course is clear as marked out by Netaji Bose. We have to keep up our struggle against the British Raj. The world situation is getting favourable for us, and there is no excuse for defeatism.

UNITY

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Balik Papan War Now Shifted To Hilly Districts

*Nippon Forces Inflict Big
Casualties On Enemy
By Infiltration Tactics*

A Nippon Base in the Southern Regions, July 17 (Domei)—Fighting in the Balikpapan sector is mounting in fury with the enemy desperately attempting to break through our positions under cover of heavy aerial and artillery bombardment. As the centre of the battle gradually shifted to hilly terrain, Nippon forces resorting to their favourite tactics of infiltration attacks are inflicting heavy losses on enemy tank forces.

Dismayed by the steady intensification of our storming assaults, the enemy is now frantically trying to drive a wedge into our positions with the support of trench-mortar fire and bombing and strafing by planes.

On July 11 an enemy force of three companies strong spearheaded by four tanks, launched a reckless assault on our defence line, but however was repelled by our forces who exacted from the enemy a toll of some 150 casualties.

Meanwhile, the enemy landed fresh forces in the sector adjacent to our former seaplane base. However, landed enemy forces are comparatively small and equipped with only one amphibious tank.

In the sector of the enemy-held aerodrome, Nippon forces are repeating fierce infiltration attacks against enemy encampments. War results scored in this sector up to July 11 include three bivouacs, one of which was for officers, two supply depots blasted, and 20 aeroplane engines destroyed.

In concert with the gallant fighting put up by our ground forces, special attack planes of our air force on the night of July 10 carried out a devastating attack on enemy warcraft and vessels in the harbour. One enemy destroyer was sunk within an instant, shooting up a huge pillar of flame.

Tokyo, July 17 (Domei)—TENNO HEIKA was graciously pleased to grant words of commendation to Nippon garrison forces in Balikpapan, Borneo and Ternate Island in the South-West Pacific, in appreciation for their courageous, successful fighting against enemy invaders.

Gracious words of commendation were granted when General Yoshijiro Umezumi, Chief of General Staff and Admiral Soemu Toyoda, Chief of the Naval General Staff were received in audience by His Imperial Majesty on Saturday, July 14 to report on the war situation. General Umezumi and Admiral Toyoda have conveyed His Imperial Majesty's words of commendation to our garrison forces on Balikpapan and Ternate Island.

LONDON POLITICAL LEADERS GREATLY DISAPPOINTED BY COLLAPSE OF SIMLA TALKS

*Estrangement Of British Sympathy
From Muslim League Forewarned*

The announcement by Lord Wavell of the failure of the Simla Conference has been received with regret in London political circles, says a New Delhi report. Lord Hailey in a statement to Reuters says: I am one of the many in this country who have always supported the Muslim claim, but I do not feel that it has been strengthened by the attitude of the Muslim League on this occasion which seems to have been entirely lacking in the spirit of accommodation.

Sir Stafford Cripps thinks Britain should have decided to scrap the temporary adjustment of the central government which has become impossible owing to the views and fears of the Muslim League and go straight ahead with the permanent solution. It should now be possible to hold new elections in India and to set up a Constituent Assembly either on the basis put forward in the British Government proposals of 1942 or on any other basis that could be agreed upon between the major parties.

It is hoped, says Sir Stafford Cripps, that some compromise

solution of the Pakistan issue can be arrived at in the Constituent Assembly, but there must be a clear decision beforehand and those provinces in which there is Muslim majority will not be forced against their will into a united India under a constitution of which they do not approve.

Sir Stafford Cripps observes it would not be right to allow any minority, however large and important, to hold up the attainment of self-government in India any more than it would be right to force the Muslim majority provinces into a new constitutional arrangement to which they took fundamental objection.

Mr. Bevan, one of the Left Wing Leaders of the British Labour Party, says the collapse of the Simla talks has caused acute disappointment in Left circles in Great Britain and if the responsibility primarily rests with the Mohammedan representatives, then it is indeed a very grave decision to have taken. It will have the effect of estranging the British Socialist sympathy from Mohammedan claims.

Nehru Addresses Public Meeting On Breakdown Of Simla Conference

Addressing a public meeting in Simla on Sunday afternoon Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru according to a New Delhi despatch, said, the failure of the Simla Conference should not cause despondency. The Wavell Plan and the Conference were one of the many methods which the Congress sought to utilise for the ultimate attainment of independence.

The Congress leaders, said Pandit Nehru, attended the Conference in good faith. They did not even raise the question of the release of their comrades who are still in jail because they did not want to be accused of being a stumbling block. There was no use blaming anybody for the failure of the conference, report concluded.

Potsdam Confab Opening Unavoidably Postponed

Lisbon, July 16 (Domei)—The opening of the "Big Three" meeting at Potsdam was postponed until tomorrow, owing to Soviet Premier Josef Stalin's delay in arriving at the scene of the talks, according to a United Press dispatch from Potsdam.

San Francisco Charter Totally Denounced As Vague, Unsatisfactory

The Congress Working Committee at Simla unanimously passed a resolution on Sunday last denouncing the San Francisco Charter on Self-Governing territories as vague, unsatisfactory and little better than the old League Mandate system, according to a New Delhi despatch. The objections to the use of the name "independence" the resolution asserts, are evidence that imperialist Powers are functioning in the old imperialist way and intend to retain and exploit colonial possessions.

The resolution also points out that the Charter lacks effectiveness since great Powers not only dominate and completely control the new organisation but are placed above and beyond the law they themselves helped to frame.

U.S. Destroyer Blown Up & Sunk Near Apra Harbour

Lisbon, July 16 (Domei)—The United States destroyer "Gamble" was blown up and sunk outside Apra Harbour yesterday when it was decided that the damage she suffered from Nipponese bombs during the battle for Iwojima was irreparable, according to a Guam dispatch.

Factors Ensuring Nippon's Final Victory Stressed

*Everything That Lacked On
Okinawa Now Available
In Nippon Mainland*

Tokyo, July 16 (Domei)—Emphasizing that Nippon will keep on fighting until final victory is attained, Captain Goro Takase, Spokesman of the Navy Press Section in an interview with a representative of the Broadcasting Corporation of Nippon, declared that an invasion of Nippon Proper is "definitely a different thing".

Captain Takase said: "Everything that Nippon lacked on Okinawa will be available on the Nippon mainland. Our armed force of millions of soldiers, in addition to 40 million civilian population mobilized into civilian defence corps, awaits in readiness for any invasion attempts. Contrary to the situation on Okinawa, men, munitions and materials need not be transported through hazardous waters and will be available in abundance to our defenders, he said.

Captain Takase went on to state: "In modern war transportation of men and materials becomes a most vital problem and in a largescale venture such as attacking Nippon Proper, this problem looks as being insurmountable. Ships needed to bring the invading forces to the landing point, ships required to transport munitions and materials for these forces and ships necessary to protect these ships would require a tonnage unparalleled in history for a single operation."

Captain Takase pointed out that there are a large number of Nippon forces in the Marshalls, New Guinea and Borneo, not to mention Malai, Djawa, Sumatra and other Southern sectors, where our troops are still intact and are defending their positions against the enemy.

As for American attempts to destroy Nippon war production plants and its cities through a series of aerial assaults, Captain Takase said: "In spite of aerial bombardments by Mariana-based B-29's and bombers of task forces and P-51's the production of war materials has not been affected to any noticeable degree.

"If there should remain any doubts in the minds of the Americans as to the truth of the statement that the war production of Nippon has not been diminished through air raids, the invaders will find out in due time, if and when such an invasion takes place," Captain Takase declared.

Indian National School Stages Successful Concert

The tastefully decorated hall of the Ramakrishna Mission at Norris Road was packed to capacity when the students of Indian National School staged yesterday evening a very successful musical concert.

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose who was present at the concert entered the hall exactly when the clock struck seven. He was presented with a guard of honour by the Balak Sena of the School and was garlanded by Swami Baswarananda. Among those present were the high ranking I.N.A. and I.I.L. officials.

The show began with the singing of the National Anthem. A well balanced programme of dance items, dialogues, national songs both in Tamil and Hindustani and sketches was drawn up and the success that attended the performance thoroughly reflected much credit on the organising capacity of the school authorities.

At the conclusion Brahmachari Kailasam, the Principal of the school, thanked all who contributed to the success of the concert.

Success Of Post Office Savings Drive Eulogised

"The number of Depositors in the Dai Nippon Post Office Savings Bank of Malai has exceeded the 500,000 mark on June 16 and, in commemoration of this great achievement the Post Office is holding a "Savings Bank Encouragement Week", commencing from 15 to 21 July", announced Mr. Suzuki, the Chuo Yubin Kyoku Tyo, addressing a gathering at the Dai Toa Gekijo on Sunday, July 15.

Reviewing the progress of the Post Office Savings Bank in Malai since its establishment by the Nippon Military Administration in September, 2602, Mr. Suzuki said that its business has increased steadily and by February 1, 2604, the total number of depositors in Malai had passed the 100,000 mark. From then, within the short space of sixteen months the figure had increased to 500,000—an increase of 400,000 new depositors. In Syonan alone there are at present 160,000 Savings Bank depositors with \$7,000,000 to their credit.

Indicating that the Postal Savings business was successful and flourishing, Mr. Suzuki thanked the Military Officers, Butais, business concerns and others for their co-operation.

Referring to the Evacuation Scheme now being undertaken by the Authorities, Mr. Suzuki advised intending evacuees to avail themselves of the Banking facilities and to deposit their money in the P.O. Savings Bank before leaving. He continued, "It is unwise and unsafe to carry a large sum of cash while travelling. Those who have large sums of money standing to their credit in the Savings Bank should have their Pass Books verified at the Head Office, Fullerton Building, before leaving for upcountry stations. If this is followed depositors will be able to withdraw any sums of money at any of the Post Offices located throughout Malai and nearby islands. It will be convenient to carry Pass Books than actual cash."

At the conclusion Mr. Suzuki urged the public to co-operate with the Authorities and make full use of the Postal Savings Bank and save more money.

Over 1 Million U.S. War Casualties Announced

Lisbon, July 15 (Domei)—The United States Army and Navy yesterday jointly announced that the United States armed forces have suffered a total of 1,049,104 casualties since the outbreak of the war, according to a Washington dispatch. The announcement placed Army losses at 915,718 and the Navy's casualties at 133,386.

Jinnah's Adamant Stand On League Claim To Represent 'Muslim India'

The text released on Sunday morning by the India Government on the recent correspondence between the Viceroy and Mr. Jinnah throws additional light on Mr. Jinnah's claim that all Muslim members of the interim government proposed in the Wavell Plan should be nominated by the Muslim League.

The first letter dated June 29th was addressed to Mr. Jinnah by the Secretary to the Governor-General. It said: The following is the action which His Excellency would like you to take if after consultation with your Working Committee you are able to accept the suggestion he made at this morning's meeting of the Conference. He would appreciate if you sent him a list giving the names of members of the Muslim League who in your opinion could suitably be included in the proposed Executive Council. The number of names in this list should be not less than 8 or more than 12.

If you think you can usefully suggest for possible inclusion in the Executive Council names of persons of any community who are not members of the Muslim League, you are at liberty to add them to the list, keeping them distinct from the names of the Muslim League members. His Excellency's intention is to scrutinise the list sent to him and to see whether from them and possibly from additional names of his own, he can on paper form an Executive Council likely to be acceptable to the parties and to His Majesty's Government. If so, he will consult leaders including yourself and thereafter decide whether it is worthwhile to make definite proposals to the Conference.

To this letter Mr. Jinnah replied on July 7th saying: With regard to your suggestion for submitting a panel of names of the members of the Muslim League for inclusion in the proposed Executive Council, the Working Committee of the Muslim League desires to point out that when a similar proposal was made by Lord Linlithgow in connection with the offer of August 1940, the Working Com-

mittee opposed it. Mr. Jinnah went on to say that the Muslim League Working Committee was emphatically of the opinion that all the Muslim members of the proposed Executive Council should be chosen from the Muslim League subject to a confidential discussion between the Viceroy and the President of the Muslim League.

To this letter, on July 9th Lord Wavell wrote to Mr. Jinnah regretting his inability to give Mr. Jinnah a guarantee that all the Muslim Members of the new Council should necessarily be members of the Muslim League. The Viceroy also said he could not commit himself to give a similar guarantee to any other party.

He continued: "I have to attempt to form an Executive Council representative, competent and generally acceptable, but of course I cannot compel any person or any party to co-operate in my own solution if they do not wish to do so. It will help me greatly if you will let me have names from the Muslim League and I sincerely hope you will do so. I ask for eight but will certainly accept five if you do not wish to send more."

Lord Wavell then explained the importance he attached to the functions of the proposed interim government. He said, during the next two or three years decisions of great importance will have to be taken by the Government of India, whatever its composition may be. These decisions on demobilisation, economic development, taxation, trade and so on cannot wait and it is the hope of His Majesty's Government that the Executive Council responsible for them will be one in which the major political parties are represented.

"It will of course be my principal duty to see fair play between all parties not only in the composition of the proposed Executive Council but in its working. I need the active help of your colleagues and yourself and I am sure you will give it to me," the Viceroy added.

Soviet Journal Launches Campaign Against Iranians

Zurich, July 16 (Domei)—The influential Soviet journal "Pravda," official mouthpiece of the Communist Party, today continued its press campaign against "Iranian reactionaries" with a cartoon attack on Iranian Deputy Said Zia Eddin, who was formerly Iranian Premier, according to a Moscow dispatch.

Said Zia Eddin, who was elected a deputy in March last year when he returned to Iran after 20 years in exile, is regarded by the Russians as one of their opponents in the Russo-Iranian negotiations for oil concessions.

Along with the cartoon of the Iranian deputy, the "Pravda" today published a Teheran dispatch which claimed "a strengthening of the activities of reactionary elements in Iran."

The dispatch said that a grenade was thrown at the house of a democratic leader, while in another incident, two policemen seized and tore up newspapers in the street.

Enemy Carrier-Borne Planes Raid Nippon

Tokyo, July 15 (Domei)—Dai Honyei announced in a communique released at 4.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon as follows:—

"Firstly, enemy carrier-borne aircraft attacked our airbases, harbours, and others in Tohoku district and the southern area of Hokkaido several times from early morning July 14.

"Secondly, in concert with this raid part of enemy surface craft carried out naval bombardment against Kamaishi and the vicinity about noon today."

Sendai, July 15 (Domei)—Several hundred enemy carrier-borne planes made bombing and strafing attacks at dawn with their main force attacking the Mutsu Bay area and part of them raiding Sendai Bay area, the Tohoku Army District Command announced in a communique released at 11 o'clock yesterday morning.

The communique said damage on our side was extremely slight. Enemy attacks appear to be directed mainly against our airfields, the communique added.

Patterson Issues Grim Warning To Americans

Lisbon, July 14 (Domei)—Robert Patterson, American Under Secretary of the Navy, in an address at Glens Falls, New York, tonight declared that the Nipponese Army would not surrender to any mere inference that it has been beaten and the American people must be prepared to fight the Nipponese the "hard way," according to a New York dispatch.

Emphasizing that the American people must be ready to face mounting war casualties as the war approaches Nippon, Patterson said, "The Nipponese are fighting a progressively smarter war."

The Nipponese, he said, are fighting more effectively and have developed a new method of cave warfare. He pointed out that from now on the fighting will be in a country favouring the defender.

Referring to the Nipponese defence of Okinawa, the Navy Under Secretary cited that the Nipponese did not attempt a defence of the beaches, where they would be under pointblank naval fire. Rather, he said, "they went back to prepared positions. In other words, they picked their battlefield."

Patterson admitted that Nipponese artillery fire "is far more effective than a year ago." A new method of attack also is being used by the Nipponese Kamikaze planes. Whereas these Kamikaze planes used to come in low in an attempt to blast a ship's hull, offering an easier target to gunners, they are now trying to drop vertically on the deck from a cloud cover, he said.

Moreover, Patterson disclosed that the Nipponese are now employing a new type of amphibious tank. The new Nipponese jeeps and reconnaissance cars have air-cooled engines, which offer many advantages for operations in Manchoukuo and China, where low temperatures are often encountered, he said.

DEATH

Mr. P. K. T. Menon, formerly on the staff of Rangoon Road School, passed away at 3 a.m. today at the Hakuo Byoin (Tan Tock Seng Hospital), Syonan. The funeral will take place at Bidadari Hindu Cemetery at 5 o'clock this evening.

Y. T. LEE—Pen Repairers

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First Batch Of Evacuees Leave For Upcountry

The first batch of evacuees from Syonan which included about fifty Indians left for their various destinations upcountry by a special train this morning at 12.30.

The evacuees who numbered in all 301 men, women and children comprised 110 families in all. Of these 22 families are proceeding to Kampar; 53 will disembark at Ipoh while the remaining 35 families will seek shelter and work at Taiping.

The party of evacuees assembled at the Tokubetu-si padang yesterday evening at about 8 o'clock and were taken to the railway station in motor lorries.

At the Tokubetu-si padang women members of the S.S.A. Special Forward Service Corps served hot tea and distributed cakes to the departing families, while S.F.S.C. boys assisted by carrying the evacuees' luggage. Each evacuee also received a packet of 10 tablets of quinine.

Meanwhile, the second batch of evacuees, it is understood, numbering 447 persons, is scheduled to leave Syonan for Penang, Kedah on Thursday, July 19.

A party of local newspaper men representing the various papers in the City are travelling with the evacuees to study at first hand conditions in the various places to which the evacuees are going.



ALL TO SEE

The Film of

TO-DAY

"SANG SZE GIP"

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IS

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at

YAMATO

(2 p.m.—4.30 p.m.—7 p.m.)

SYOWA

(3.30 p.m.—6 p.m.—8.30 p.m.)

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Free List Suspended

During Its Season.